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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 19, 2004.

*Mary Ann Copas*  
Mary Ann Copas, Secretary

In the Application of Dr. Melvin Hatch

Title: Heat Conducting Support For Curved Bottom Vessels

Serial Number: 09/941,029 Filed: August 28, 2001

Art Unit: 3727 Examiner: Joseph C. Merek

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED DECISION ON APPEAL OF PATENT APPLICATION**  
**- PURSUANT TO MPEP 7802-IV AND 37 CFR1.102C**

With reference to the enclosed patent application, and pursuant to MPEP 7802-IV and 37 CFR1.102C, applicant hereby respectfully requests that the examination of this application be expedited due to applicant's age.

Attached please find a Declaration of Age form signed by the inventor, Dr. Melvin Hatch.

It is requested that any fees required or any shortages in any fees due, now or at any time during the examination of this application, be charged to Deposit Account 02-1653.

Respectfully submitted,

*Robert W. Becker*

Robert W. Becker, Reg. No. 26,255  
for Applicant

ROBERT W. BECKER & ASSOCIATES  
707 Highway 66 East, Suite B  
Tijeras, New Mexico 87059

Telephone: (505) 286-3511  
Facsimile: (505) 286-3524

RWB:mac  
Enclosure



ATTORNEY DOCKET #: NMTECH 8

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**DECLARATION OF AGE - PURSUANT TO MPEP 7802-IV AND 37 CFR1.102C**

As the inventor for the instant patent application, I hereby declare that:

I, Dr. Melvin Hatch, am over 65 years of age and that my date of birth is

Oct. 20, 1926.

I also hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date: Aug 18, 2004

Dr. Melvin Hatch  
Dr. Melvin Hatch